

Apparently they roosted here at the edge of the fields. This species has not been reported in Nepal since Hodgson's time (*see* Biswas 1963: 192). Our specimen was taken on 12 January 1967.

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CHETRAPATI,

KATHMANDU.

P.O. Box 229,

KATHMANDU,

August 8, 1970.

HARI S. NEPALI

ROBERT L. FLEMING, JR.

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12. CROCODILE (*CROCODILUS PALUSTRIS*) BREEDING AT THE JAIPUR ZOO

Thirty-three eggs, oval in shape and hard-shelled were laid by the female crocodile at the Jaipur Zoo on 5th May, 1971. Two young ones were found dead in the eggs and four eggs were sterile. Thus 27 young ones survived, which gives a hatching success of 82 per cent. The female laid eggs in the dry portion of the cage. The eggs were buried by the mother in a 2 feet deep pit. Leaves and plant debris were used by her to cover the pit.

The average weight of the eggs was 115 gm. and diameter 70 mm.

The female crocodile sat at the place where the eggs were concealed once or twice in a day for half to 2 hours. Occasionally the mother looked around to make sure that the brooding place was un-

TABLE

STATEMENT SHOWING BREEDING DATA OF CROCODILES AT JAIPUR ZOO

Year	Date of Egg laying	Clutch size	Date of Hatching	Incubation period	No. of young Hatched and survived	No. of spoiled Eggs	Hatching success percentage
1967	9-v-1967	41	3-vii-1967	55 days	29	12	71%
1968	18-v-1968	22	6-vii-1968	49 days	12	10	55%
1969	22-v-1969	28	5-vii-1969	44 days	24	4	86%
1970	25-iv-1970	35	2-vii-1970	68 days	31	4	89%
1971	5-v-1971	33	26-vi-1971	52 days	27	6	82%

disturbed. She would run to the site if some one came near. At times she rushed towards the sweeper if he went near the eggs while cleaning the enclosure.

The hatching started on the morning of 26th June and was complete by 15 hrs. the same day. 14 young escaped into the water but were soon captured with the help of nets and along with the other young were kept in a separate cage.

If the young are not separated from the parents soon after hatching, there is the danger of their being devoured by them. They were removed from the cage of their parents very cautiously as the mother furiously attacked intruders.

The young reptile soon after hatching measured between 28 and 30 cm. with their weight ranging from 90 to 100 gm. The young ones could see, bite and swim with ease.

The young ones do not accept any feed for about a month but depend on sand particles and small insects available in their cage. After this they are given minced-meat and minced-fish once a day which they readily devour.

Crocodiles in the Jaipur Zoo have been breeding regularly for the last 12 years. The data has also been published in the year book of the London Zoological Society, Volume 9.

Mating occurs during December and January and the eggs are laid in April and May. The mating takes place in water in an overlapped position and lasts half to two hours, during which period they are silent and motionless.

By the time this note was written in the third week of July, all the 27 young crocodiles were doing well in their small cage in the Jaipur Zoo.

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
RAJASTHAN,
JAIPUR,
July 26, 1971.

MAHENDRA PRAKASH

13. A RECORD OF THE GHARIAL, *GAVIALIS* *GANGETICUS* (GMELIN) FROM PATNA (BIHAR)

On 21-xi-1970 night a single specimen of *Gavialis gangeticus* (Gmelin) was caught by a fisherman, from the Badar Ghat (Patna), at the confluence of the River Gandak with the River Ganges. It was collected in a fishing net, locally called 'Gochai'. The specimen measured 247 cm. and its approximate weight was 100 Kg.